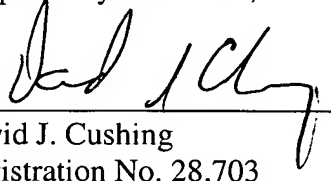


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
U.S. Application No. 10/622,550  
Attorney Docket No. Q76543

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Cushing", is written over a horizontal line.

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Date: January 7, 2004